

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composite material ~~containing~~ comprising:  
a reinforcing resin, and  
coated reinforcing fibers each comprising a reinforcing fiber and a coating, the ~~reinforcing fibers having a coating containing~~ comprising polyphenylene sulfide,  
wherein a proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to ~~uncoated~~ the reinforcing fibers is 0.001 to < 0.01 percent by weight.
2. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to Claim 1, wherein the proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the ~~uncoated~~ reinforcing fibers is 0.002 to 0.009 wt.%.
3. (Previously Presented) Composite material according to Claim 1, wherein the coating comprises polyphenylene sulfide and a thermoplastic or duroplastic material.
4. (Previously Presented) Composite material according to Claim 1, wherein the reinforcing resin is a thermoplastic or a mixture of thermoplastics.
5. (Previously Presented) Composite material according to Claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fibers are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.
6. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a composite material comprising the steps
  - a) providing reinforcing fibers that have been optionally pretreated,
  - b) applying a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide on the reinforcing fibers of step a), such that the coating contains 0.001 to < 0.01 wt.% of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the reinforcing fibers, resulting in production of coated reinforcing fibers, and

c) processing the coated reinforcing fibers of step b) into a composite material, with a reinforcing resin.

7. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 6, wherein the reinforcing fibers of step a) are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.

8. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 6, wherein the carbon reinforcing fibers of step a) have been pretreated by electrochemical oxidation.

9. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 6, wherein the reinforcing fibers of step a) are conducted through a bath containing a suspension of polyphenylene sulfide, dried and wound up in step b).

10. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 9, wherein the bath also contains a solution of a thermoplastic.

11. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 6, wherein the coated reinforcing fibers in step c) are processed in a form of filament yarns, short fibers, woven, braided, knitted or crocheted fabrics, nonwovens, unidirectional scrims or multidirectional scrims into a composite material.

12. (Previously Presented) Components for aircraft construction, automobile construction, machine construction or plant construction, and medical components, comprised of the composite material according to claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) Reinforcing Coated reinforcing fibers each comprising a reinforcing fiber and a coating, the having a coating containing comprising polyphenylene sulfide, wherein a proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to ~~uncoated~~ the reinforcing fibers is 0.001 to < 0.01 wt.%.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Reinforcing~~ Coated reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, wherein the proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the ~~uncoated~~ reinforcing fibers is 0.002 to 0.009 wt.%.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Reinforcing~~ Coated reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, wherein the coating comprises polyphenylene sulfide and a thermoplastic or duroplastic.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Reinforcing~~ Coated reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, wherein the reinforcing fibers are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.